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1 July 1946

Honorable Robert H. Patterson
Secretary of War
Room 3E860, Pentagon
War Department
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

Forwarded herewith for your consideration is a memorandum outlining various delegations of authority to the Director of the Strategic Services Unit which it is felt are necessary to the continuance of its functions. These authorities were executed heretofore in accordance with the Executive Order transferring the functions of OSS to yourself, and your delegation of those functions to SSU.

With the beginning of a new fiscal year, however, this Unit begins to operate for the first time on funds allotted to it specifically under the War Department appropriation. Under these circumstances, it is felt that without the desired delegations of authority, all routine administrative activities which are commonly delegated to persons performing them would have to be processed through your Office to become effective. It is felt that the delegations requested are appropriate to the functions of this Unit, and that they must be thus specifically set forth in order to protect adequately those officials who certify to and sign papers having to do with the expenditure of Government funds.

It is clearly understood that SSU is in a liquidating stage, and that the authorizations herein requested are required only for the purposes of efficient liquidation. At the time when the functions of SSU are absorbed by CIO or otherwise disposed of, these special delegations will necessarily terminate and become ineffective.

Respectfully,

LRH/ml1

WILLIAM W. QUINN
Colonel, Infantry